(b) if so, what is preventing Government to fill up those posts; and

(c) by when the vacant posts are expected to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) has five Members including the Member-Secretary. While one post of Member fell vacant due to demise of the incumbent on 31st May, 2007, the post of Member-Secretary has fallen vacant on 8th August, 2007. It is not possible to indicate a time-frame for filling up the vacancies.

Scholarships for SC students

871. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special scholarships for higher studies to SC students which are to be sanctioned; and

(b) the number of students benefited by the scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) A statement showing the State-wise number of students covered under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for the last three financial years is at Statement-I (*See* below). In respect of other Schemes, the information is as under:

(i) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship:

This Scheme was started from the year 2005-06. This is implemented by University Grants Commission (UGC). A statement showing number of State-wise Fellowships awarded by UGC for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given as Statement-II (*See* below).

(ii) National Overseas Scholarship for higher studies abroad:

The number of awardees selected under the Scheme for the last three years, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are 20, 20 and 15 respectively.

Statement-I

State-wise number of students covered under the scheme of Post Matric Scholarship

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Number of beneficiaries covered during		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	346495	377529	414537
2	Assam	23370	177691	21600
3	Bihar	37187	37425	37425

1	2	3	4	5
4	Chhattisgarh	65697	38240	42503
5	Goa	94	170	190
6	Gujarat	81656	70680	76713
7	Haryana	15510	18812	18812
8	Himachal Pradesh	5295	4268	7417
9	Jammu & Kashmir	5974	12834	12839
10	Jharkhand	12045	13342	14600
11	Karnataka	154265	118380	186659
12	Kerala	81234	86600	91146
13	Madhya Pradesh	81602	108056	114539
14	Maharastra	318515	334441	334441
15	Manipur	3380	2721	3184
16	Meghalaya	1464	1554	1554
17	Orissa	NA	34608	43313
18	Punjab	6930	40714	60612
19	Rajasthan	79985	70411	140923
20	Sikkim	NA	224	258
21	Tamil Nadu	241718	359374	374374
22	Tripura	8640	10300	10372
23	Uttar Pradesh	481804	562290	684329
24	Uttaranchal	27784	30066	33025
25	West Bengal	180789	187590	230415
26	Daman & Diu	79	NA	NA
27	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	NA	NA	NA
28	Delhi	371	443	443
29.	Pondicherry	2438	2519	2519
	TOTAL:	2264321	2541282	2958742

Statement-II

Number of State-wise fellowships awarded by UGC for the year 2005-06 *and* 2006-07

Sl. No.	State	Number of fellowships recommended by Expert Committee of UGC (for the years 2005-06 & 2006-07 combined)
1	Andhra Pradesh	402
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3	Assam	8
4	Bihar	67
5	Chandigarh	0
6	Chhattisgarh	14
7	Delhi	69
8	Gujarat	21
9	Himachal Pradesh	42
10	Haryana	83
11	Jammu & Kashmir	23
12	Jharkhand	27
13	Karnataka	194
14	Kerala	102
15	Madhya Pradesh	131
16	Maharashtra	243
17	Manipur	25
18	Meghalaya	4
19	Orissa	90
20	Punjab	41
21	Puducherry	2
22	Rajasthan	137
23	Tamil Nadu	392
24	Tripura	1
25	Uttar Pradesh	432
26	Uttaranchal	33
27	West Bengal	82
	TOTAL:	2666